Tutorial 1

Movie: *The class*

[](http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/the_class/)

**Summary**

Teacher François Marin and his colleagues are preparing for another school year teaching at a racially mixed inner city high school in Paris. The teachers talk to each other about their prospective students, both the good and the bad. The teachers collectively want to inspire their students, but each teacher is an individual who will do things in his or her own way to achieve the results they desire. They also have differing viewpoints on the students themselves, and how best to praise and discipline them.

The administration of the school tries to be as fair as possible, which includes having student representatives sit on the student evaluation committee.

Marin's class this year of fourteen and fifteen year olds is no different than previous years, although the names and faces have changed. Marin tries to get through to his students, sometimes with success and sometimes resulting in utter failure.

Even Marin has his breaking point, which may result in him doing things he would probably admit to himself are wrong.

But after all is said and done, there is next year and another group of students

**Synopsis**

Francois is an open minded teacher in charge of a classroom of youngsters from a wide variety of backgrounds. His position of authority causes his students to challenge him on many occasions.

François is stuck in the middle. In the teacher conferences, he butts heads with the harsher adults who don't appear to have any sympathy for their students. In class, his attempts to be lenient and understanding are somehow misinterpreted and he finds himself arguing with the kids that he so clearly wants to help. As the school year progresses, tensions rise, until François finds himself in a position he never imagined he'd be in – he is charged by some students as having called them , ‘sluts’ in the midst of this he is dealing with Souleyman, a student in his class, who despite his inner misgivings, the school expels.

**Tutorial 1:**

Students share some of their practicum experiences in regards to classroom management

**View scene 2** with the students – use the scene selection tab on the DVD root menu

This scene begins on day 1 of a new school year.

Scene 2

Watch and stop after the students are in the classroom and have written their names on folded pieces of paper.

As a group discuss:

What questions would a discipline model need to answer?

What do you consider would be some of the essential elements of a basic discipline model?

What impact do routines and procedures have on management of student behaviour?

The students will be asked to begin writing their own personal response to classroom management.

**Tutorial 2:**

**View scene 7**

This scene begins with a teacher exchange in the staff room by one member who is so totally frustrated by the students in his class.

It then moves back into Francois room where the students are reading the Diary of Ann Frank – Marin asks Khoumba to read and she refuses

Stop the scene when Esmeralda begins to read the chapter.

Discuss:

What would you do if a child refused to work in your class? Do you believe the situation was handled well?

What is your understanding of a reactive and proactive approach to student behaviour?

**View scene 9**

Francois addresses Khoumba in regards to her behaviour – refusing to read when asked –

Stop the scene after Francois kicks the chair.

Discuss:

What value is there in establishing respectful, caring relationships in a classroom?

**View scene 11**

In this scene Francois gets a letter from Khoumba detailing her feelings about what is happening in the classroom.

Stop after the letter is read and discuss with students what impact this would have on relationships in the classroom.

**View scene 14**

(Background thinking – students in our classroom come from a diversity of backgrounds – the importance of getting to know students backgrounds is vital to effective management)

This scene has parent teacher meetings taking place – Francois meets with a number of parents including Souleyman’s brother and mother.

Stop scene after Souleyamn’s meeting – discuss

What could be some causes of discipline problems? Focus on child’s home life, problems in society, and problems in the school.

Students complete their personal response and hand in for collection.